

In the Claims:

Please allow the amendment of claim 1 with the limitations of claim 8, the amendment of claim 13 with the limitations of claim 18, and the cancellation of claims 8 and 18 as the amendments add no new material and put the claims in condition for allowance. Please also allow the amendment of claims 9 and 19 so that they depend from pending claims.

1. (Currently amended) A method of restoring data in a computer network system wherein a plurality of client systems have access to a storage pool coupled to an associated storage area network (SAN) comprising the steps of:

requesting a restore wherein each of said plurality of client systems may participate in said restore; and

coordinating restoration of data stored in said storage pool using a storage management server that constructs a master restore table comprising a plurality of data portions to be restored and an associated location of said plurality of data portions in said storage pool wherein said master restore table is identified by an associated token and a client system participating in a restore gains access to said master restore table by use of said token, tracks said plurality of data portions of said data as restored by said plurality of client systems, and blocks access to each of said plurality of data portions that have been restored by one of said plurality of client systems to avoid duplicative restoration efforts.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said coordinating access step occurs during a plurality of sessions.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said coordinating access step is interruptible.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said storage pool comprises a plurality of storage devices and said associated location of said data portions includes a location in one of said storage devices.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein said data portions are provided concurrently from said plurality of storage devices to a target restoration device accessible by said plurality of client systems.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said master restore table further comprises data representative of a LAN-free path or a server-free path from a client to said storage pool.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[8]]1, further comprising the step of deleting said master restore table after restoration of a target restoration device is complete and returning said token to said client system.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said constructing step further comprises automatically partitioning said plurality of data portions in said master restore table based on said associated location of said plurality of data portions in said storage pool.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said coordinating access step occurs before said master restore table is fully constructed.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said master restore table is saved in a storage management server, said storage management server coupled to said SAN.

13. (Currently amended) A computer network system for restoring data comprising:
a plurality of client systems;
a storage pool coupled to said plurality of client systems through a storage area network (SAN); and

a storage management server coupled to said plurality of client systems through said SAN, wherein said storage management server is configured to coordinate restoration of data stored in said storage pool by constructing a master restore table comprising a plurality of data portions to be restored and an associated location of said plurality of data portions in said storage pool wherein said master restore table is identified by an associated token and a client system participating in a restore gains access to said master restore table by use of said token, tracking said plurality of data portions of said data as restored by said plurality of client systems, and blocking access to each of said plurality of data portions that have been restored by one of said plurality of client systems to avoid duplicative restoration efforts.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously presented) The system of claim 13, wherein said storage pool comprises a plurality of storage devices and said associated location of said data portions includes a location in one of said plurality of storage devices.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein said data portions are provided concurrently from said plurality of storage devices to a target restoration device accessible by said plurality of client systems.

17. (Previously presented) The system of claim 13, wherein said master restore table further comprises data representative of a LAN-free path or a server-free path from a client to said storage pool.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1~~[[8]]~~3, wherein an initiating client instructs deletion of said master restore table after restoration of a target restoration device is complete.

20. (Previously presented) The system of claim 13, wherein said master restore table is configured to automatically partition said plurality of data portions based on said associated location of said plurality of data portions in said storage pool.